

1. A purified polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- a) an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1,
- b) a naturally-occurring amino acid sequence having at least 90% sequence identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1,
- c) a biologically-active fragment of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, and
- d) an immunogenic fragment of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

10. An isolated antibody which specifically binds to a polypeptide of claim 1.

11. An isolated polynucleotide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- a) a polynucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2,
- b) a naturally-occurring polynucleotide sequence having at least 90% sequence identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2,
- c) a polynucleotide sequence complementary to a),
- d) a polynucleotide sequence complementary to b) and
- e) a ribonucleotide equivalent of a)-d).

22. A polypeptide of claim 1, comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

24. A diagnostic test for a condition or disease associated with the expression of PxTE in a biological sample comprising the steps of:

- a) combining the biological sample with an antibody of claim 10, under conditions suitable for the antibody to bind the polypeptide and form an antibody: polypeptide complex; and
- b) detecting the complex, wherein the presence of the complex correlates with the presence of the polypeptide in the biological sample.

25. The antibody of claim 10, wherein the antibody is:

- (a) a chimeric antibody;
- (b) a single chain antibody;
- (c) a Fab fragment;
- (d) a F(ab')₂ fragment; or
- (e) a humanized antibody.

26. A composition comprising an antibody of claim 10 and an acceptable excipient.

27. A method of diagnosing a condition or disease associated with the expression of PxTE in a subject, comprising administering to said subject an effective amount of the composition of claim 26.

28. A composition of claim 26, wherein the antibody is labeled.

29. A method of diagnosing a condition or disease associated with the expression of PxTE in a subject, comprising administering to said subject an effective amount of the composition of claim 28.

30. A method of preparing a polyclonal antibody with the specificity of the antibody of claim 10 comprising:

- a) immunizing an animal with a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:1 or an immunogenic fragment thereof under conditions to elicit an antibody response;
- b) isolating antibodies from said animal; and
- c) screening the isolated antibodies with the polypeptide thereby identifying a polyclonal antibody which binds specifically to a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:1.

31. An antibody produced by a method of claim 30.

32. A composition comprising the antibody of claim 31 and a suitable carrier.

33. A method of making a monoclonal antibody with the specificity of the antibody of claim 10 comprising:

- a) immunizing an animal with a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:1 or an immunogenic fragment thereof under conditions to elicit an antibody response;
- b) isolating antibody producing cells from the animal;
- c) fusing the antibody producing cells with immortalized cells to form monoclonal antibody-producing hybridoma cells;
- d) culturing the hybridoma cells; and
- e) isolating from the culture monoclonal antibody which binds specifically to a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:1.

34. A monoclonal antibody produced by a method of claim 33.

35. A composition comprising the antibody of claim 34 and a suitable carrier.

36. The antibody of claim 10, wherein the antibody is produced by screening a Fab expression library.

37. The antibody of claim 10, wherein the antibody is produced by screening a recombinant immunoglobulin library.

38. A method for detecting a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:1 in a sample comprising the steps of:

- a) incubating the antibody of claim 10 with a sample under conditions to allow specific binding of the antibody and the polypeptide; and
- b) detecting specific binding, wherein specific binding indicates the presence of a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:1 in the sample.

39. A method of purifying a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:1 from a sample, the method comprising:

a) incubating the antibody of claim 10 with a sample under conditions to allow specific binding of the antibody and the polypeptide; and

b) separating the antibody from the sample and obtaining purified polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:1.